RATIO OF TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF IN REGIONAL ENGINEERING COLLEGES

2816. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ratio of teaching and non-teaching staff, teaching staff and students and total staff to students in Regional Engineering college, Srinagar is much higher than the ration in other Regional Engineering Colleges;

(b) whether the Regional Engineering College, Srinagar did not invest the GPF/CPF receipts between Rs.Q/42 crore and Rs. 1.61 crore in long term deposits during 1995-2000, which resulted in loss of interest of Rs.54 lakh;

(c) if so, the reasons for the both; and

(d) the corrective measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE (DR (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) Yes, sir. The ratio of teaching & non-teaching staff, teaching staff & students and total staff to the students is higher in comparison to similar ratio in other Regional Engineering Colleges in the country.

(b) to (d) Yes, sir. The Regional Engineering College, Srinagar did not invest the amount under long term deposit due to resources constraint from time to time. The Regional Engineering College, Srinagar has been advised to get the matter inquired into and take all possible corrective measure to check the recurrence of the lapse.

RANKING OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

2817. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a recent survey of Asian Universities, conducted by Asia week, a Hong Kong based, English weekly;

(b) whether Government are also aware that not a single Indian University figures among the first twenty universities in the list, except for JNU, which was ranked above fifty in the Asian region;

(c) what are the reasons for poor standard of Indian Universities; and

(d) what steps are being taken to upgrade the standards of Indian Universities, to bring them at par with foreign Universities of International repute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR, (SHRIMATI) RITA VERM A): (a) to (d) Surveys made by periodicals are usually not based on universally accepted parameters endorsed by an international body such as UNESCO etc. They, therefore, have limited value. The Government, however, is fully conscious of the generic issue of quality upgradation in higher education. Towards this end, assessment and accreditation has now been made obligatory for all universities and colleges. Other aspects of a qualitative nature including curricula updating, improving IT facilities, induction and inservicc training of teachers, adherence to a minimum level of working days and teaching hours arc being focused upon.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WOMEN

2818. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) by when Government are going to bring before Parliament a Bill pertaining to sexual harassment of women at work place;

(b) what arc the salient features of the Bill;

(c) whether any consultations have been made with State Government; and

(d) if so, the details of such consultations and the reaction of State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA